

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 05122 130836Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 EB-08 AID-05 COME-00 TRSE-00 /063 W
-----122998 130841Z /20

P R 130800Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2604
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
DSAA WASHDC
HQ USAF WASHDC
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 5122

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, TU
SUBJECT: TURKISH PAYMENTS ON F-4 COMMERCIAL CONTRACT

REF: A) STATE 171889 (DTG 072008Z JUL 78), B) ANKARA 4947
(DTG 060740Z JUL 78)

1. CHIEF OF JUSMMAT AIR FORCE SECTION RAISED QUESTION OF
TURKISH PAYMENTS ON MCDONNELL-DOUGLAS F-4 COMMERCIAL CONTRACT
WITH DEFENSE MINISTRY PROCUREMENT CHIEF, GENERAL CELIK, ON
JULY 11. CELIK, WHO RETURNED FROM WASHINGTON OVER THIS PAST
WEEK-END, WAS ABLE TO SAY ONLY THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT
MATTER WAS RAISED IN MEETINGS WITH UNSPECIFIED "HIGH LEVEL"
USG OFFICIALS DURING ECEVIT'S WASHINGTON VISIT. CELIK
ADDED THAT, IN THESE MEETINGS, THE GOT ASKED FOR: A)
RESCHEDULING OF FMS REPAYMENTS (AGREED TO IN PRINCIPLE BY
THE USG), (B) USG ASSISTANCE IN PERSUADING MCDONNELL-DOUGLAS
TO DEFER PAYMENTS ON THE F-4 COMMERCIAL CONTRACT, AND (C)
IF MCDONNELL-DOUGLAS WOULD NOT AGREE TO DEFERMENT, THE USG
SHOULD FIND SOME WAY TO MAKE THE PAYMENTS TO MCDONNEL-
DOUGLAS ON THE GOT'S BEHALF.

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2. COMMENT: CELIK COULD NOT SAY IN WHICH MEETINGS (E.G.,
WITH THE SECRETARY, SECRETARY BROWN, SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL)
POINTS (B) AND (C) WERE RAISED. HOWEVER, CELIK REMARKED
PRIVATELY THAT HE BELIEVED POINTS (B) AND (C) WERE NON-STARTERS,
BUT MORE SENIOR OFFICIALS IN THE DEFENSE MINISTRY WERE
DETERMINED TO SUGGEST THESE OPTIONS ANYWAY. AT ANY RATE,
CELIK WAS TOLD PER REF A THAT WE HAD NO REPEAT NO INFORMATION

ON ANY ROLL-BACK OF THE GOT'S OBLIGATIONS TO MCDONNELL-
DOUGLAS OR OF PLANS TO CONVERT COMMERCIAL CONTRACT TO
FMS FINANCING. SE WILL CONTINUE TO TRY TO DETERMINE IN LOW-KEY
FASHION IN WHICH MEETING WITH USG OFFICIAL(S) THE
MCDONNELL-DOUGLAS REPAYMENT PROBLEM MIGHT HAVE BEEN RAISED.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONTRACTS, DEBT REPAYMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ANKARA05122
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780286-1107
Format: TEL
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780766/aaaacdsm.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d9c67e76-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 171889, 78 ANKARA 4947
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2027792
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH PAYMENTS ON F-4 COMMERCIAL CONTRACT
TAGS: MASS, TU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d9c67e76-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014